



OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Jeff Chiesa  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Chiesa:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

To further the President's goal of finding an additional 500 MHz of spectrum for wireless broadband use by 2020, the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) brought together industry, government, and other stakeholders under the auspices of the Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee (CSMAC) to examine the opportunities for clearing of federal systems and sharing between federal and commercial interests in 95 megahertz of spectrum in the 1755-1850 MHz band. As a result of these efforts, the CSMAC presented NTIA its final recommendations for addressing several incumbent federal systems. On August 1, 2013, NTIA requested all affected federal agencies using the 1755-1780 MHz band to submit transition plans for this band no later than January 23, 2014. NTIA is working with the agencies over the coming months to finalize their plans. This schedule will enable the FCC to auction the 1755-1780 MHz band by its September 2014 target date.

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Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense



Penny Pritzker  
Secretary of Commerce



Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
Federal Communications  
Commission





OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Dan Coats  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Coats:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

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Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense



Penny Pritzker  
Secretary of Commerce



Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
Federal Communications  
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OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cruz:

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Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense



Penny Pritzker  
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Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
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OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Deb Fischer  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Fischer:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

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Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
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Penny Pritzker  
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Mignon Clyburn  
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OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Martin Heinrich  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Heinrich:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

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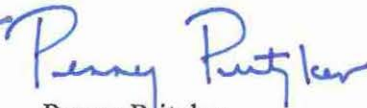
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OCT - 11 2013

The Honorable Dean Heller  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Heller:

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OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Ron Johnson  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

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Charles T. Hagel  
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Mignon Clyburn  
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OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

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Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense

Penny Pritzker  
Secretary of Commerce



Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
Federal Communications  
Commission





OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Edward J. Markey  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Markey:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

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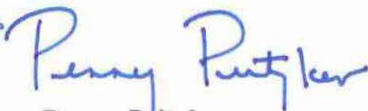
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Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense



Penny Pritzker  
Secretary of Commerce



Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
Federal Communications  
Commission





OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Claire McCaskill  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McCaskill:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

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Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense

Penny Pritzker  
Secretary of Commerce



Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
Federal Communications  
Commission





OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Bill Nelson  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

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Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense

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Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
Federal Communications  
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OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rubio:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

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Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense

Penny Pritzker  
Secretary of Commerce



Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
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OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Brian Schatz  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schatz:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

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Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense



Penny Pritzker  
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Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
Federal Communications  
Commission





OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Tim Scott  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Scott:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

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Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense



Penny Pritzker  
Secretary of Commerce



Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
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Commission





OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Shaheen:

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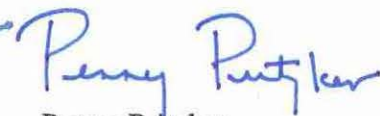
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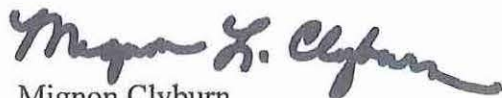
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Penny Pritzker  
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Commission





OCT - 1 2013

The Honorable Mark Warner  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warner:

Thank you for your August 1 letter regarding federal radio spectrum. On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Commerce, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we recognize that making more spectrum available for commercial use is critical to strengthening our economy and to funding the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). At the same time, we must maintain essential national security capabilities. As you requested, this letter will update you on our efforts to resolve the issues related to repurposing the 1755-1780 MHz band to enable the band to be auctioned and licensed by February 22, 2015.

To further the President's goal of finding an additional 500 MHz of spectrum for wireless broadband use by 2020, the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) brought together industry, government, and other stakeholders under the auspices of the Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee (CSMAC) to examine the opportunities for clearing of federal systems and sharing between federal and commercial interests in 95 megahertz of spectrum in the 1755-1850 MHz band. As a result of these efforts, the CSMAC presented NTIA its final recommendations for addressing several incumbent federal systems. On August 1, 2013, NTIA requested all affected federal agencies using the 1755-1780 MHz band to submit transition plans for this band no later than January 23, 2014. NTIA is working with the agencies over the coming months to finalize their plans. This schedule will enable the FCC to auction the 1755-1780 MHz band by its September 2014 target date.

After careful review of all available information, including the CSMAC's working group studies, on July 17, 2013, DoD proposed to NTIA to make the 1755-1780 MHz band available for commercial use and enable DoD access to suitable replacement spectrum, including the 2025-2110 MHz band, where and when necessary, without displacing incumbent commercial and federal users. This proposal would restore essential military capabilities as required by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (NDAA 2000), support the FCC's auction deadline, and enable pairing of 1755-1780 MHz with 2155-2180 MHz. DoD initiated discussions with the broadcast community to determine the most feasible arrangement for coordinating shared access to the 2025-2110 MHz band. DoD is also focusing on the development of its transition plans, which will not be easy to complete in light of the variety and large number of systems affected and the limited time

available for transition plan development. However, DoD is diligently working with NTIA and other federal and industry stakeholders to enable a timely auction and an executable plan.

On July 23, 2013, the FCC initiated a rulemaking highlighting the critical importance of freeing up additional spectrum for flexible commercial use. This rulemaking is the product of significant work and analysis by FCC attorneys and engineers. Initial public comments are due September 18, 2013, and reply comments are due October 16, 2013. The notice of proposed rulemaking asks many detailed questions about the 1755-1780 MHz band, in addition to other bands, including 2155-2180 MHz. The notice specifically seeks comment on DoD's July 17, 2013, proposed relocation and sharing plan as well as the wireless industry's proposed roadmap for the 1755-1780 MHz band.

The notice also seeks input on the implications of various plans on funding for FirstNet and the statutory requirement that an auction generate 110 percent of estimated relocation and sharing costs. The notice also seeks comment on the implications of section 1062(b) of NDAA 2000 with respect to the various proposals. As it moves forward with the rulemaking proceeding, the FCC will particularly focus on evaluating and refining the details of DoD's proposed plan and the industry roadmap in parallel with the public comment cycle in order to ensure that the agencies are able to develop their transition plans to allow a timely auction. The FCC will also carefully review the CSMAC recommendations that NTIA transmits to determine the elements that may be incorporated into the rules.

We recognize that a successful auction of the 1755-1780 MHz band will require additional close collaboration between DoD, NTIA, and the FCC. To that end, our staffs have been involved in dozens of calls and face-to-face meetings with each other, other federal agencies, and industry experts to work successfully through issues and options. The DoD through its Chief Information Officer, the Commerce Department through the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, and the FCC Chair will continue to work together and will provide you subsequent joint progress updates, as requested in your letter.

Sincerely,



Charles T. Hagel  
Secretary of Defense



Penny Pritzker  
Secretary of Commerce



Mignon Clyburn  
Acting Chairwoman  
Federal Communications  
Commission